

BORDER ICE RINK CLUB
MINUTES OF THE 52nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Held in the Clubrooms at Border Ice Rink on Thursday, 29th September 2016 at 7.30 pm

Welcome: David S Kerr, President of the Club, was in the Chair and welcomed the members attending the meeting.
In Memoriam: The President announced that the following members had died during the year: Robert Forsyth, Neil MacArthur, Peter Wright, John Fleming, William Grimsdale, Malcolm Maxwell, Bert Anderson, Walter Coltherd, Ronald Wardhaugh. The members present then stood in a silent tribute.

Present: Members present at the meeting were Stuart Craig, Nina Clancy, Liz Cullen, Elspeth Bell, Jim Cullen, Bob Robertson, Peter Colebrook, George Whiteford, Colin Stirling, Harry Dodds, John Hodge, Douglas Elliot, Oliver Stark, Peter Bowyer, Neil McLain, Graeme Baxter, Bruce Lees, David Kerr, Judith Dixon, James Collin, Chris Lucas, Wendy Henderson, Liz Martin, June Swan, Walter Scott, Graham Fry, Bill Mitchell, Bert Duncan, Glynnice Lauder, D.E. Wright, Andrew Wemyss, Tommy Fleming, David McAlpine, Keith Prentice, Rhona Fleming, Gwen Prentice, Roberta Forrest, Robert Mathieson, John Stevenson, Helen Mathieson, Sheila Macnab, Colin Macnab. In attendance - Gill Adamson of Rennie Welch LLP.

Apologies: Apologies were received from Hilary Bowyer, Mike Frost, Angus MacMillan, Jimmy Laine, Roddy McLean, Bill Cleghorn, Bill Byers, Graeme Cowe, Luigi Massari, James Dixon, Alistair Lindsay, Robert Laidlaw.

Minutes of the 51st AGM: The Minutes of the 51st AGM were approved. Proposed by Colin Stirling and seconded by George Whitehead.

Matters Arising: None

Auditor's Report: Gill Adamson of Rennie Welch LLP presented the accounts to the meeting. Questions were then invited. Peter Bowyer asked about the bank charges and Gill Adamson explained what they were for. Jim Cullen queried the recording of the figure of £352 for the Marie Curie as part of the donations and sponsorship in the notes to the Financial Statements. Gill Adamson was not able to give an immediate explanation for this but undertook to investigate the position and feedback her answer through David Kerr. The accounts were approved on the proposal of Peter Bowyer seconded by Oliver Stark.

Chairman's Report: The President started by thanking all the sponsors of competitions whose non-cash contributions do not show up in the accounts. A tribute was paid to the small committee who organised the 2015 Indoor Grand Match at Kelso with the Kelso contribution being talked about throughout Scotland by teams who had played at Kelso. Club secretaries, treasurers and members were thanked for accepting the changes to the collection of BIRC membership dues which should contribute greatly to the financial viability of the Ice Rink. He announced Jim Cullen's appointment as Vice-President of the RCCC and wished him well in his duties and responsibilities. The President also offered congratulations to Cameron Bryce for skipping the winning rink at the Scottish Mixed Competition. He reported that Stuart Craig had joined the Committee during the year, replacing Alan Nisbet and that Stuart would have a term of office of 2 years. The Ice Diamond Award was then presented to Douglas Elliot, who had been a Director of the Board for 23 years and Chairman for the last 12 years, who had been instrumental in much of the improvements at the Ice Rink in the last 10 years. The President then concluded by thanking his Committee for their support, Graeme Baxter and Ruaraidh Whyte for their help and for Bruce Lees for taking the Minutes.

Election of Office Bearers and Committee: The President, David Kerr, proposed Colin Stirling as the new President and this was seconded by Jim Cullen. The Presidency was then handed over to Colin Stirling who took the chair and immediately paid tribute to David Kerr for his two years of work as President. The President, Colin Stirling, proposed Keith Prentice as Vice-President seconded by David Kerr and then Keith Prentice accepted office. The President confirmed that the two retiring Committee members were Malcolm Ross and Ian McCreathe. The President confirmed that there were three nominations to replace the two retiring Committee members, these being Rhona Fleming, Liz Martin and Helen Mathieson. After a ballot of those present, Rhona Fleming and Liz Martin were elected. The President welcomed the newly appointed Committee members and then intimated the time and date of the next Committee meeting as being Monday, 3rd October at 7:30 pm.

Annual membership subscription for 2016 – 2017: The President confirmed that the subscription was £28 and thought there was no reason to change this. Keeping the subscription at that level was proposed by Keith Prentice

and seconded by Harry Dodds and this was approved.

Appointment of Auditor: The President proposed that Rennie Welch should remain as auditors and this was unanimously approved.

Directors Report: The Chairman of the Board of Directors, Nina Clancy, explained the role of the Directors and managing and running the Ice Rink. She confirmed that the heating issues were being resolved and that the draft at the front door is to be sorted out. She intimated that the general heating system is on its last legs and could fail; that advice was taken as to a replacement system which would cost in the region of £25,000 - £30,000, the work for which would take place next summer; and that they would try to nurse the current heating system through the current season. She paid tribute to Margaret Robertson who had retired as a Director during the year, for her many years of service on the Board. She also paid tribute to Douglas Elliot for the real progress made during his time on the Board and under his Chairmanship in particular and set out a long list of achievements during this time. She then proceeded to make a presentation to Douglas Elliot on behalf of the Company to the unanimous applause of the members present. Douglas Elliot then gave a speech in thanks.

Ladies Section: Ladies' President Elspeth Bell thanked her Committee for their support. She confirmed that the Ladies' Constitution had been updated at their AGM; that there were now 16 teams in the Challenge (6 home, 10 away), with 2 reserve teams and that they had had a full opening Bonspiel. Arrangements for the incoming tour from USA in November were well in hand.

Border Curling Development Group Report: John Stevenson reported that most RCCC and Directors' targets had been met for the funding received. The biggest improvement was with the Skill Awards for juniors where there had been 20 red and 10 white awards. This was all helped by our coaches going through the Skills Assessment Course. Targets were hit for sending juniors to competitions. There had been a successful Come and Try programme with more than 100 in attendance some of whom had joined the Virtual Club and a few had joined clubs. The coaches were thanked and congratulations offered to Cameron Bryce for his Mixed success. Aileen Hood had been appointed as the new RCCC Development Officer starting in October. The Development Plan from RCCC was still to recruit and retain members and club and player development. Following on from this a meeting had been organised on Tuesday, 4th October at 7.30pm. The email invitation for this to all clubs and different groups involved at the Ice Rink had received only 6 responses. A seminar on the Development Plan and new coaching techniques at Kinross had been attended by Bob Robertson and Helen Mathieson. A Tactics and Strategy Seminar has been organised for 7th November at 7.30pm. The Come and Try this year has to take place between 19th November and 19th December to get RCCC funding. 6 sessions have been booked with 3 follow-on sessions. The European Curling Association Championships are at Braehead this year and applications for free tickets have been sent out to schools. John concluded by thanking the Development Group Committee.

Any Other Competent Business: Walter Scott raised the issue of the collection mechanism for payment of BIR membership dues. This was in the context of his Club at Yester, only some of whose members play at Kelso. The President confirmed that a unanimous decision had been made by the Committee to proceed with the collection mechanism now in place, which involves inviting Clubs to act as agents for BIR Club to provide a list of who ought to be paying a BIR Club membership and collecting membership dues from them. He clarified that only those playing have to pay and occasional reserves who come to Kelso could be signed in. David Kerr confirmed that any membership dues which had not been collected by an individual Club should be reported to the BIR Club, so that the Ice Rink Management and Club Committee could pursue collection of the membership dues direct with the curler concerned. Various other contributions were made from the floor in respect of the membership dues collection mechanism including how the mechanism was presented and introduced. In response to a query about whether more could just be added to ice fees instead of charging for membership Gill Adamson clarified that this would result in all curlers having to pay more for their curling as a result of the Ice Rink having to pay tax in respect all of its income including the ice charges. The President confirmed that the operation of the payment collection system would be reviewed by the Committee at the end of the year and any alternative proposals could be put to the next AGM. As regards the video system, Colin Macnab wondered if the clarity of the screens could be improved and George Whiteford remarked that the cameras need to be realigned, so that they show the stones in front of the house on the Clubhouse screens. Nina Clancy undertook to look into these matters. There being no other competent business the President thanked all those who were in attendance and wished them a good curling season.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.